

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Action/Consent Item:**

Appointment to the State Textbook Commission

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 156.405 (2)

### **Action Question:**

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the recommendation for appointments to the State Textbook Commission?

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** In accordance with KRS 156.405(2), the Kentucky Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the chief state school officer, approves the appointments of members to the State Textbook Commission for terms of four years. Two appointments are made each year with the exception of four appointments made every fourth year.

The State Textbook Commission oversees the state adoption process for textbooks and instructional materials. It consists of ten members who represent the various areas of the commonwealth--two (2) parents, two (2) administrators, five (5) teachers, and one (1) higher education representative. Their responsibilities include approving substitutions, establishing the state multiple list, approving membership for a statewide review team, and developing an evaluation instrument for each adoption group with the assistance of the review team.

Individuals currently serving on the Commission are as follows:

Rhonda Boyd, teacher, Georgetown Middle School, Georgetown (Scott Co.)  
John H. Hudson, principal, Atherton High School, Louisville (Jefferson Co.)  
Bonnie R. Martin, teacher, Henry County Middle School, New Castle (Henry Co.)  
Jennifer Mattingly, teacher, Rockcastle County High School, Mt. Vernon (Rockcastle Co.)  
Karen McDaniel, librarian, Kentucky State University, Frankfort (Franklin Co.)  
Mary Mills, parent, Munfordville (Hart Co.)  
Stacie Barnett-Slusher, parent, (Bell Co.)  
Cliff Owens, administrator, McCracken County Schools, Paducah (McCracken Co.)  
Karen Roberts, teacher, Longfellow Primary School, Mayfield (Graves Co.)  
Katrina Slone, teacher, Hindman Elementary, Hindman (Knott Co.)

According to KRS 156.405(2), the State Textbook Commission is required to have ten members. On June 30, 2005, the terms of Rhonda Boyd, Bonnie Martin, Jennifer Mattingly and Karen Roberts end creating four vacancies on the Commission that represent teacher membership. All four members are eligible for reappointment and are willing to continue to serve. The State Textbook Commission candidates plus other applicants applied and selection was based on content and grade level representation, technology expertise and criteria based on their instructional background regarding to the next 2 adoption cycles of Language Arts and Social Studies. The commissioner recommends, upon staff's recommendation, reappointment of three current members and the appointment of one new member.

If these four members are approved, the composition of the State Textbook Commission will represent all areas of the state, will consist of two (2) males and eight (8) females, will be composed of two (2) African-Americans and eight (8) Caucasians, and meet the requirements set forth in statute.

### **Staff Recommendation and Rationale:**

Staff proposes that the board approve the appointments of the following persons to the State Textbook Commission. Each applicant is fully qualified to be a member of the Commission.

Rhonda Boyd is a current member and former chair of the Textbook Commission and being reappointed as teacher representative. Ms. Boyd is a seventh grade Language Arts teacher at Georgetown Middle School in Scott County. She represents the middle level language art perspective and shares that textbooks are a supplemental and instructional materials should consist of a variety of resources like periodical publications, instructional CDs, and manipulatives that support all learners.

Jennifer Mattingly is a current member and represents the language arts high school perspective that will be critical during this language arts adoption cycle. Ms. Mattingly is a high school language arts teacher from Rockcastle High School that relies on a variety of texts and instructional materials to deliver and support instruction. Ms. Mattingly shares that textbooks and instructional materials need to provide a variety of options for all students to have access to content.

Karen Roberts is a current member and represents the primary reading perspective. She is a reading specialist serving Mayfield Independent Schools that represents the western part of Kentucky. Ms. Roberts views instructional materials as a tool for teachers and a vehicle to support mastery of concepts by students. Ms. Roberts' expertise with reading and writing with their literacy initiative supported by the district level will enhance the commission's expertise.

LJ Harville is a Reading Academy fellow that supports reading in the content area for social studies and arts and humanities. Ms. Harville serves as a Technology Resource Teacher for the Pike County Board of Education and has been a team member that researches and provides technology enhancements that correlate with district-aligned curriculum.

**Impact on Getting to Proficiency:**

Quality materials are essential to supporting the progress toward proficiency.

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**Deputy Commissioner**

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

June 2005